Application No.: 09/890,470

Amendment Dated December 15, 2003

Rule 312 Amendment

REMARKS

Attorney Docket No.: FUK-85

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 13 are pending and allowed in this application.

Claims 1 and 6 are amended hereby. Support for such a change can be found at Page 2, line 6-17, and in the first step of each of Embodiments 1-6, as per the original specification.

Examiner Peter A. Hruskoci was contact on October 24, 2003, to discuss amending of the defluorination step presented in the preamble of each of claims 1 and 6. Specifically, Applicant sought permission to change the step of adding calcium carbonate to primary waste water to instead recite "using calcium carbonate to remove F from primary waste water..." It was indicated to the Examiner that, while this claim language is slightly broader than that language agreed to in the teleconference of October 16, 2003 (leading to an Examiner's amendment), such language is actually more consistent with Embodiments 1-6 than the language agreed to for the Examiner's amendment (claims 1 and 6). The Examiner indicated that he would have no problem entering such a change, given that it did not significantly alter the scope of claims 1 and 6.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the allowance of claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 13 be maintained, and that the case be forwarded to issue.

2

10

15

5

Application No.: 09/890,470

Amendment Dated December 15, 2003

Rule 312 Amendment

If the Examiner has any questions or comments that would speed prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 260/485-6001.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Y. Knapp

Registration No. 45,384

JTK/mdc

Encs: Amendments to the Claims (4 Sheets; pp. 4-8)

Explanatory Cover Sheet Page 1

Customer No. 022855 RANDALL J. KNUTH, P.C. 3510-A Stellhorn Road Fort Wayne, IN 46815-4631 Telephone: 260/485-6001

Facsimile: 260/485-6001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Attorney Docket No.: FUK-85

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on: <u>December 15, 2003.</u>

Jeffrey T. Knapp, Registration No. 45,384
Name of Registered Representative

December 15, 2003

Date